

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for dispensing optical storage media from a kiosk, remote from a system server and communicatively connected to said system server, said system comprising:
 - a first ~~processor~~ central processing unit in said kiosk;
 - a first set of instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
 - receive a request for an optical storage media and billing information from a user,
 - transmit said billing information to said system server for confirmation,
 - receive said confirmation of billing from said system server,
 - and
 - dispense said requested optical storage media to said user;
 - a first media readable by said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit for storing said first set of instructions;
 - a second ~~processor~~ central processing unit in said system server;
 - a second set of instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
 - receive said billing information from said first ~~server~~ central processing unit,
 - perform a credit verification routine on a credit account in said billing information,
 - transmit said confirmation to said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit responsive to a verification of credit account, and
 - transmit an electronic receipt for said transaction to a user specified address in said billing information; and
 - a second media readable by said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit for storing said second set of instructions.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:
- instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
 - read data from one of said optical storage media stored in said kiosk; and
 - display said data on a display in said kiosk.
3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:
- instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
 - receive a returned optical media from a user,
 - identify said returned optical media, and
 - transmit identity of said returned optical media to said system server.
4. (Original) The system of claim 3 further comprising:
 - an optical reading device.
5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:
- instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
 - read said returned optical media, and
 - detect an error in data stored on said returned media.
6. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:
 - generating a recording indicating said optical storage media contains an error responsive to detection of said error.
7. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:
 - instructions for directing said first processing unit to:
 - receive a signal from said user that said returned optical media contains an error.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein said signal is read from a flag on a casing that is returned with said returned optical media.
9. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:
a plurality of optical storage media each storing data for a particular program;
a storage carousel in said kiosk for storing said plurality of optical storage media; and wherein said first instructions further comprise instructions for maintaining an inventory of said plurality of optical storage media stored in said storage carousel.
10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein said first instructions further comprise:
instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
removing a one of said optical storage media from said inventory responsive to dispensing said one of said plurality of optical storage media.
11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein said first instructions further comprise:
instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
add a one of said plurality of said optical storage media to said inventory response to receiving said one of said plurality of optical storage media from said user.
12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein said first instructions further comprise:
transmitting an update of said inventory to said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit responsive to said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit updating said inventory.
13. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:
a media polishing mechanism associated with said kiosk.
14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13 further comprising.

an optical reading mechanism in said kiosk; and
wherein said first set of instructions further comprise instructions for
directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
read said optical storage media,
perform an error checking routine on said optical storage
media, and
generate an indicia of an error on said optical storage media
responsive to detecting an error in said optical storage
media.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:

instructions directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
display a warning to insert said optical media device into said
media polishing mechanism.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to
insert said optical storage media in said media polishing
mechanism responsive to said indicia of said error.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein said first instructions further comprise:

perform said error checking routine responsive to said optical storage
media being polished.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said second set of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:
open a transaction responsive to receiving said billing
information from said first processing unit.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 wherein said second set of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:

receive a message indicating said optical storage media has
been returned to said kiosk, and
close said transaction responsive to receiving said message.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said second set
of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:
maintain an inventory database of optical storage media in said
kiosk.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20 wherein said second set
of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:
provide access to said inventory database to a third central
processing unit.

22. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein user specified address is an
e-mail address.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein said second set
of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to maintain a user profile of users.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein said
instructions for directing said second set of instructions further comprises:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to record information of each said optical storage media that
said user requests.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 24 wherein said second set
of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:
read said user profile,
determine which type of optical storage media said user prefers,
and
transmit advertisements for optical storage media of types said
users prefer to said kiosk.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising:
an internet service provider;
a third ~~processor~~ central processing unit in said internet service
provider;
a third set of instructions for directing said third ~~processor~~ central
processing unit to transmit messages between said first
~~processor~~ central processing unit and said second ~~processor~~
central processing unit ;
a third storage media readable by said third ~~processor~~ central
processing unit for storing said third set of instructions;
wherein said first set of instructions include instructions for directing
said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to insert data for said
second ~~processor~~ central processing unit in messages, transmit
said messages to said third ~~processor~~ central processing unit ,
receive messages from said third ~~processor~~ central processing
unit, and read data from said received messages; and
wherein said second set of instructions include instructions for
directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit to insert
data for said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit into said
messages, transmit said message to said third ~~processors~~ central
processing unit, to receive said messages from said third
~~processor~~ central processing unit, and remove data from said
messages.

27. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

an media identification reader in said kiosk that is operable to detect an identification marking on said optical storage media.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein said first set of instructions include:

instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
read said identification marking on said optical storage media
using said media identification reader, and
identify said optical storage media.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 28 wherein said first set of instructions further comprise:

instructions for directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
maintain a record of a position of said optical recording storage
media in said kiosk based upon said identification of
said optical storage media.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein said identification marking on said optical storage media includes a concentric marking around a center of said optical storage media.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein said concentric marking is a bar code.

32 (Original) The system of claim 31 wherein said media identification reader is a bar code scanner.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising:
an optical writing system that writes optical data to said optical storage media;
wherein said first set of instructions include instructions for directing
said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
transmit a request data to store on said optical storage media to
said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit,
receive said data from said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit, and
unit, and

write said data to said optical storage media; and
wherein said second set of instructions include instructions for
directing said second ~~processor~~ central processing unit
to:
receive said request for said data,
retrieve said data, and
transmit said data to said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit.

34. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said receipt includes advertisements.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said advertisements are promotions for optical media available at said kiosk.

36. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said receipt includes a link to a file maintained on an Internet server.

37. (Original) The system of claim 36 wherein said file is a home page.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37 wherein said home page includes information about promotions offered by said system.

39. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:
a casing dispenser that dispensing a casing for said optical media to
said user.

40. (Original) The system of claim 39 wherein said casing comprises:
a storage compartment for said disk;
a pre-metered stamp to allow said casing to be mailed; and
a preprinted address.

41. (Original) The system of claim 39 wherein said casing further
includes:
an identifier.

42. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41 wherein said kiosk
further comprises:
a retrieval slot configured to receive a casing;

a reader proximate said retrieval slot; and
wherein said first set of instructions include instructions for
directing said first ~~processor~~ central processing unit to:
read said identifier from said casing,
determine whether said optical storage media in said casing
belongs to said system, and
opening said retrieval slot responsive to a determination that
said optical storage media belongs to said system.

43. (Previously Amended) A method for dispensing optical storage media from a kiosk, remote from a system server and communicatively connected to said system server, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for an optical storage media and billing information from a user at said kiosk;
transmitting said billing information to said system server for confirmation;
receiving said billing information in said system server;
performing a credit verification routine on a credit account in said billing information with said system server;
transmitting said confirmation from said system server to said kiosk responsive to a verification of credit account;
transmitting an electronic receipt for said transaction to a user specified address received in said billing information;
receiving said confirmation of billing from said system server in said kiosk; and dispensing said requested optical storage media to said user.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the steps of:
reading data from said optical storage media stored in said kiosk; and
displaying said data on a display in said kiosk.

45. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the steps of:
receiving a returned optical media from a user in said kiosk;
identifying said returned optical media; and

transmitting an identity of said returned optical media to said system server.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45 further comprising the steps of: reading data from said returned optical media in said kiosk; and detecting an error in data stored on said returned optical media.
47. (Original) The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of: generating a recording indicating said optical storage media contains an error responsive to detection of said error.
48. (Original) The method of claim 45 further comprising the steps of: receiving a signal from said user that said returned optical media contains an error.
49. (Original) The method of claim 48 further comprising the step of: reading said signal from a flag on a casing that is returned with said returned optical media.
50. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of: storing a plurality of optical storage media in said kiosk wherein each of said plurality of optical storage media stores data for a particular program; and maintaining an inventory of said plurality of optical storage media stored in kiosk.
51. (Original) The method of claim 50 further comprising the step of: removing a one of said optical storage media from said inventory responsive to dispensing said one of said plurality of optical storage media.
52. (Original) The method of claim 50 further comprising the steps of: adding a one of said plurality of said optical storage media to said inventory response to receiving said one of said plurality of optical storage media in said kiosk from said user.
53. (Original) The method of claim 50 further comprising the step of:

transmitting an update of said inventory to said system server
responsive to said kiosk updating said inventory.

54. (Original) The system of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
providing a media polishing mechanism associated with said kiosk.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 54 further comprising the
step of:

reading said optical storage media;
performing an error checking routine on said optical storage media;
and
generating an indicia of an error on said optical storage media
responsive to detecting an error in said optical storage media.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising the
step of:

displaying a warning to insert said optical media device into said
media polishing mechanism.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising the
step of:

inserting said optical storage media in said media polishing mechanism
responsive to said indicia of said error.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57 further comprising the step of:
performing said error checking routine responsive to said optical
storage media being polished.

59. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the steps of:
opening a transaction record in said system server responsive to
receiving said billing information.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising the
steps of:

transmitting a message from said kiosk to said system server
responsive to receiving said optical storage media in said kiosk

wherein said message indicates said optical storage media has been returned to said kiosk;
receiving a message indicating said optical storage media has been returned to said kiosk, and
closing said transaction record responsive to receiving said message.

61. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
maintaining an inventory database of optical storage media in said kiosk at said system server.
62. (Original) The method of claim 61 further comprising the step of:
providing access to said inventory database to a user via an Internet connection.
63. (Original) The method of claim 43 wherein user specified address is an e-mail address.
64. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
maintaining a user profile of said user in said system server.
65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, further comprising the step of:
recording information of each said optical storage media that said user requests in said user profile.
66. (Original) The method of claim 66 further comprising the steps of:
reading said user profile;
determining which type of optical storage media said user prefers;
transmitting advertisements for optical storage media of types said users prefer to said kiosk; and
displaying said advertisements at said kiosk.
67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 further comprising the steps of:
generating messages containing information for said system server in said kiosk;

transmitting said messages to Internet service provider;
transmitting said messages from said Internet service provider to said
system server;
receiving said messages in said system server; and
reading data from said received messages in said system server.

68. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the steps of:
transmitting messages containing data for said kiosk from said system
server to an Internet service provider;
receiving said messages in said Internet service provider;
transmitting said messages from said Internet service provider to said
kiosk; and
removing data from said messages in said kiosk.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 further comprising the
step of:
reading an identification marking on said optical storage media using a
media identification reader in said kiosk; and
identifying said optical storage media.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 69 further comprising the
step of:
maintaining a record of a position of said optical storage media in said
kiosk based upon said identification of said optical storage
media.

71. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 70 wherein said step of
reading said identification marking on said optical storage media includes:
reading a concentric marking around a center of said optical storage
media.

72. (Original) The method of claim 71 wherein step of reading said
concentric marking includes:
reading a bar code printed concentrically around said optical storage
media with a bar code scanner in said kiosk.

73. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
transmitting a request for data to said system server to said kiosk;
receiving said data in said kiosk from said system server; and
writing said data to said optical storage media.
74. (Original) The method of claim 73 further comprising the steps of:
receiving said request for said data from said kiosk in said system
server;
retrieving said data; and
transmitting said data from said system server to said kiosk.
75. (Original) The method of claim 43 wherein said receipt includes
advertisements.
76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein said
advertisements are promotions for optical media available at said kiosk.
77. (Original) The method of claim 43 wherein said receipt includes a link
to a file maintained on an Internet server.
78. (Original) The method of claim 77 wherein said file is a home page.
79. (Original) The method of claim 78 wherein said home page includes
information about promotions offered by said system.
80. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising the step of:
dispensing a casing for said optical media to said user.
81. (Original) The method of claim 80 further comprising the step of:
stamping said casing with pre-metered postage to allow said casing to
be mailed; and
printing a postal address on said casing.
82. (Original) The method of claim 80 further comprising the step of:
including an identifier on said casing.
83. (Original) The method of claim 82 further comprising the steps of:
reading said identifier from said casing,

determining whether said optical storage media in said casing belongs to said system, and
opening a retrieval slot configured to receive said casing responsive to a determination that said optical storage media belongs to said system.